

# **Riverside General Plan Program Technical Advisory Committee**

## **Meeting #2 Monday, May 12, 2003**

---

On Monday, May 12, 2003, the Riverside General Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held its second meeting. The meeting was led by City Planning Department staff and members of the CBA consultant team. The focus of the meeting was to discuss the focus and process of the General Plan update, define the role of the TAC and identify issues to be addressed in the General Plan.

TAC members made comments on community issues that the General Plan should address, the overall focus of the General Plan, and additional sources of information. These comments are provided here.

### **Transit**

- Development in the City currently is not transit oriented.
- Ensure that new development encourages walking and bicycling.
- Place higher-density development near transit centers.

### **Joint Community Facilities**

- Create more satellite community facilities to maintain service levels and Riverside's small town feel.
- Increase communication to the neighborhoods.

### **Code Enforcement**

- We need to tie code enforcement issues to the General Plan. We need better integration where City property interfaces with County property.
- Examine methods for minimizing the appearance of satellite dishes within multi-family developments.

### **Police Department**

- The Police Department needs more computers and wired technology to better serve the community. Develop high-tech infrastructure for new police facilities.

## **Economy**

- Redevelopment is an important tool for revitalization in Riverside. It is important to include redevelopment plans within the General Plan.

## **Infrastructure/Public Works**

- Encourage the installation of solar panels in all new developments.
- Use light-colored surfaces on roofs to minimize the absorption of heat and reduce energy costs.
- Require that new industrial and commercial development projects incorporate high-technology infrastructure such as broad-band and satellite access.
- Require that utility lines be placed under sidewalks, not under the street. It is cheaper and easier to replace the sidewalk than portions of the street.
- It is not possible to address requirements for all the needs or requirements for high-tech infrastructure because technology changes so rapidly. However, the Zoning Code should be flexible enough to be able to adapt to future needs.

## **Art and Culture**

- We should examine requiring a public art fee/requiring public art for all new development. The City of Ventura uses a public art fee program.

## **Water Services**

- Emphasize water conservation throughout the General Plan and Zoning Code.
- Riverside currently has no distribution system for reclaimed or “gray” water. Investigate the use of reclaimed water as a future development concept. This is probably most feasible in industrial uses and for golf course irrigation.
- Portions of Riverside, such as Orangecrest, are not served by the Riverside Public Utilities but by the Western Municipal Water District. As Riverside annexes different areas of the City, the Western Municipal Water District will serve more Riverside neighborhoods with water and/or waste water services. Residents need to be made aware of this.
- Providing adequate water for future development within the Inland Empire and throughout Southern California will remain an important issue for water service providers.

## **Education**

- We need involvement of university students and faculty regarding issues relevant to the General Plan update.
- Student housing needs to be planned to provide connection to both the City and the campus.
- We need to strengthen/encourage partnerships between the campus, Chamber of Commerce, and the City to market community assets.

## **Parks and Conservation**

- Capitalize on surplus land near the Riverside City boundaries that are currently under the jurisdiction of the March Joint Powers Authority (JPA). This land has the potential to be converted to a park for recreational purposes.

## **General Comments**

- The General Plan should consider neighborhood needs regarding transportation, services, community ownership, and public safety.
- There are land use compatibility issues surrounding the March Joint Powers Authority (JPA) lands.
- The General Plan should coordinate police service boundaries, code enforcement boundaries, and planning areas. Example: Use City ward boundaries.
- We need to plant trees that do not uproot sidewalks, consume too much water, or require too much maintenance.